



INQUIRIES

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FREQUENCY OF PAY, AUGUST 1976

Main Features

- . In August 1976 three of every five employed wage and salary earners (57.9 per cent) were paid weekly and one third (34.5 per cent) were paid fortnightly.
- . Frequency of pay varied among States and Territories; the proportion of employees paid weekly, varied from 63 per cent in Victoria to under 30 per cent in the Australian Capital Territory.
- . More than 80 per cent of employees in manufacturing, in wholesale and retail trade and in entertainment, recreation, restaurants, hotels and personal services were paid weekly.

Introduction

This bulletin contains information about the frequency of pay of wage and salary earners employed in August 1976. The estimates were derived from the population survey conducted in that month. Results of earlier surveys were published in *Frequency of Pay, August 1974* (Reference No. 6.46) and in *Labour Force Experience During 1968* (Reference No. 6.26).

The population survey

2. The survey is based on a multi-stage area sample of private dwellings (about 30,000 houses, flats, etc.) and non-private dwellings (hotels, motels, etc.) and covers about two-thirds of one per cent of the population of Australia. The information is obtained from the occupants of selected dwellings by carefully chosen and specially trained interviewers, the interviews being carried out during a four-week period.

Scope

3. The estimates relate to all persons aged 15 years and over, except persons in institutions, members of the permanent armed forces and certain diplomatic

personnel customarily excluded from census and estimated populations. The persons in institutions are those who were patients in hospitals and sanatoria, or inmates of gaols, reformatories, etc., for whom, for the purposes of the survey, the institution was regarded as their dwelling.

4. For the purposes of this survey questions were asked of employed wage and salary earners only. Employers, self-employed persons and unpaid family helpers were excluded from the survey.

Reliability of the estimates

5. Since the estimates in this bulletin are based on a sample, they may differ from the figures that would have been obtained from a complete census using the same questionnaire and procedures. An indication of the likely differences is given in the Technical Note, page 5. See also paragraph 6 of the Technical Note regarding non-sampling errors.

Related publications

6. Other ABS publications which may be of interest include:

- . *The Labour Force* (Reference No. 6.20)
- . *Labour Force Experience* (Reference No. 6.26)
- . *Weekly Earnings of Employees (Distribution)* (Reference No. 6.51).

Symbols used in this bulletin

* Subject to sampling variability too high for most reasonable uses. See page 5, paragraph 5.

NOTE. Any discrepancies between totals and sums of components in tables are due to rounding.

TABLE 1. EMPLOYED WAGE AND SALARY EARNERS (a) : INDUSTRY AND FREQUENCY OF PAY, AUSTRALIA
AUGUST 1976

Industry	Frequency of pay						Total (b)	
	Weekly		Fortnightly		Monthly			
	'000	Per cent	'000	Per cent	'000	Per cent	'000	Per cent
MALES								
Agriculture, forestry, fishing, etc.	37.4	40.4	23.1	25.0	19.8	21.4	92.4	100.0
Mining and quarrying	31.2	44.4	30.5	43.4	8.5	12.0	70.3	100.0
Manufacturing	696.1	77.4	120.8	13.4	79.9	8.9	899.2	100.0
Electricity, gas and water	41.6	45.9	48.0	52.9	*	*	90.6	100.0
Construction	220.0	69.3	84.8	26.7	8.1	2.6	317.3	100.0
Wholesale and retail trade	442.7	81.4	36.9	6.8	58.8	10.8	544.1	100.0
Transport and storage	109.1	48.4	100.0	44.4	10.6	4.7	225.4	100.0
Communication	*	*	85.2	95.5	*	*	89.2	100.0
Finance, insurance, real estate and business services	56.2	27.9	118.6	59.0	21.8	10.8	201.0	100.0
Public administration and defence (c)	31.9	17.9	144.6	81.2	*	*	178.1	100.0
Community services	46.1	16.0	218.6	75.7	19.7	6.8	288.8	100.0
Entertainment, recreation, restaurants, hotels and personal services	85.2	79.9	14.7	13.8	*	*	106.6	100.0
Total	1,800.8	58.0	1,025.8	33.1	233.3	7.5	3,103.1	100.0
FEMALES								
Agriculture, forestry, fishing, etc.	7.2	50.0	*	*	*	*	14.3	100.0
Mining and quarrying	*	*	*	*	*	*	5.0	100.0
Manufacturing	283.2	91.7	14.2	4.6	8.5	2.7	308.9	100.0
Electricity, gas and water	4.5	50.7	4.2	48.2	*	*	8.8	100.0
Construction	12.0	65.2	*	*	*	*	18.4	100.0
Wholesale and retail trade	350.4	92.1	16.0	4.2	10.1	2.7	380.4	100.0
Transport and storage	19.9	60.1	10.8	32.6	*	*	33.2	100.0
Communication	*	*	25.4	90.2	*	*	28.2	100.0
Finance, insurance, real estate and business services	82.0	42.8	99.1	51.7	7.0	3.7	191.6	100.0
Public administration and defence (c)	10.8	11.7	79.2	86.4	*	*	91.7	100.0
Community services	92.0	18.2	385.2	76.2	16.6	3.3	505.3	100.0
Entertainment, recreation, restaurants, hotels and personal services	154.4	87.5	12.1	6.9	*	*	176.4	100.0
Total	1,018.3	57.8	654.4	37.1	55.3	3.1	1,762.2	100.0
PERSONS								
Agriculture, forestry, fishing, etc.	44.5	41.7	24.8	23.3	23.1	21.7	106.7	100.0
Mining and quarrying	32.3	42.9	33.1	44.0	9.7	12.9	75.3	100.0
Manufacturing	979.2	81.1	135.0	11.2	88.3	7.3	1,208.1	100.0
Electricity, gas and water	46.0	46.3	52.2	52.5	*	*	99.4	100.0
Construction	232.0	69.1	88.6	26.4	10.1	3.0	335.7	100.0
Wholesale and retail trade	793.1	85.8	52.9	5.7	68.9	7.5	924.5	100.0
Transport and storage	129.1	49.9	110.9	42.9	12.7	4.9	258.6	100.0
Communication	4.3	3.7	110.6	94.2	*	*	117.4	100.0
Finance, insurance, real estate and business services	138.1	35.2	217.7	55.4	28.8	7.3	392.6	100.0
Public administration and defence (c)	42.6	15.8	223.8	83.0	*	*	269.8	100.0
Community services	138.1	17.4	603.7	76.0	36.3	4.6	794.1	100.0
Entertainment, recreation, restaurants, hotels and personal services	239.6	84.6	26.8	9.5	6.0	2.1	283.1	100.0
Total	2,819.1	57.9	1,680.1	34.5	288.6	5.9	4,865.3	100.0

(a) Non-institutional civilians aged 15 years and over. For scope of the survey see page 1, paragraphs 3 and 4. (b) Includes 43,200 males and 34,200 females paid at other intervals. (c) Excludes permanent defence forces.

* See page 5, paragraph 5.

TABLE 2. EMPLOYED WAGE AND SALARY EARNERS (a) : OCCUPATION AND FREQUENCY OF PAY, AUSTRALIA
AUGUST 1976

Occupation	Frequency of pay						Total (b)	
	Weekly		Fortnightly		Monthly			
	'000	Per cent	'000	Per cent	'000	Per cent	'000	Per cent
MALES								
Professional and technical	72.5	19.6	227.0	61.4	65.7	17.8	369.9	100.0
Administrative, executive and managerial	100.5	43.2	52.5	22.6	76.6	32.9	232.5	100.0
Clerical	96.9	29.6	210.7	64.4	18.1	5.6	327.0	100.0
Sales	145.8	74.5	23.2	11.9	22.1	11.3	195.6	100.0
Farmers, fishermen, timber-getters etc.	53.3	45.7	31.0	26.6	19.1	16.4	116.7	100.0
Transport and communication	122.0	53.2	97.6	42.6	4.6	2.0	229.1	100.0
Tradesmen, production-process workers and labourers n.e.c. (including miners, quarrymen and related workers)	1,118.2	76.8	304.6	20.9	24.2	1.7	1,456.0	100.0
Service, sport and recreation	91.7	52.1	79.2	44.9	*	*	176.2	100.0
Total	1,800.8	58.0	1,025.8	33.1	233.3	7.5	3,103.1	100.0
FEMALES								
Professional and technical	44.6	14.4	242.3	78.5	12.5	4.1	308.8	100.0
Administrative, executive and managerial	13.9	63.4	4.8	21.7	*	*	21.9	100.0
Clerical	345.7	55.4	243.2	39.0	26.6	4.3	623.9	100.0
Sales	189.3	93.6	5.9	2.9	4.0	2.0	202.2	100.0
Farmers, etc.	7.9	60.0	*	*	*	*	13.2	100.0
Transport and communication	14.1	35.9	21.9	56.0	*	*	39.2	100.0
Tradeswomen, production-process workers and labourers n.e.c.	214.7	94.4	10.0	4.4	*	*	227.4	100.0
Service, sport and recreation	188.2	57.8	124.7	38.3	4.7	1.5	325.6	100.0
Total	1,018.3	57.8	654.4	37.1	55.3	3.1	1,762.2	100.0
PERSONS								
Professional and technical	117.0	17.2	469.3	69.1	78.2	11.5	678.8	100.0
Administrative, executive and managerial	114.4	45.0	57.3	22.5	78.7	30.9	254.4	100.0
Clerical	442.6	46.6	453.8	47.7	44.7	4.7	950.9	100.0
Sales	335.0	84.2	29.1	7.3	26.1	6.6	397.9	100.0
Farmers, fishermen, timber-getters etc.	61.2	47.1	32.7	25.2	20.8	16.1	129.9	100.0
Transport and communication	136.1	50.7	119.5	44.6	7.1	2.6	268.3	100.0
Tradesmen, production-process workers and labourers n.e.c. (including miners, quarrymen and related workers)	1,332.8	79.2	314.6	18.7	25.3	1.5	1,683.4	100.0
Service, sport and recreation	279.9	55.8	203.9	40.6	7.6	1.5	501.7	100.0
Total	2,819.1	57.9	1,680.1	34.5	288.6	5.9	4,865.3	100.0

For footnotes see Table 1. * See page 5, paragraph 5.

TABLE 3. EMPLOYED WAGE AND SALARY EARNERS (a) : FREQUENCY OF PAY, AUGUST 1976

State or Territory	Frequency of pay							
	Weekly		Fortnightly		Monthly		Total (b)	
	'000	Per cent	'000	Per cent	'000	Per cent	'000	Per cent
MALES								
New South Wales	666.3	59.5	348.2	31.1	89.6	8.0	1,120.7	100.0
Victoria	536.3	63.8	230.3	27.4	65.1	7.8	840.1	100.0
Queensland	251.7	57.8	145.0	33.3	34.0	7.8	435.6	100.0
South Australia	148.4	52.2	113.7	40.0	17.7	6.2	284.4	100.0
Western Australia	135.2	51.6	102.5	39.2	17.4	6.7	261.8	100.0
Tasmania	41.3	44.6	44.9	48.5	5.3	5.7	92.6	100.0
Northern Territory	7.2	34.8	11.6	56.7	1.7	8.5	20.6	100.0
Australian Capital Territory	14.4	30.5	29.4	62.4	2.4	5.2	47.2	100.0
<i>Australia</i>	<i>1,800.8</i>	<i>58.0</i>	<i>1,025.8</i>	<i>33.1</i>	<i>233.3</i>	<i>7.5</i>	<i>3,103.1</i>	<i>100.0</i>
FEMALES								
New South Wales	374.8	59.9	217.3	34.7	20.9	3.3	625.6	100.0
Victoria	316.4	62.6	165.6	32.8	16.1	3.2	505.3	100.0
Queensland	122.8	55.0	89.9	40.2	6.7	3.0	223.3	100.0
South Australia	91.8	53.8	70.3	41.2	5.4	3.2	170.4	100.0
Western Australia	77.8	52.5	64.0	43.2	3.3	2.2	148.2	100.0
Tasmania	23.1	49.4	21.2	45.5	*	*	46.7	100.0
Northern Territory	3.3	27.6	6.4	53.5	*	*	11.9	100.0
Australian Capital Territory	8.4	27.3	19.9	64.6	*	*	30.8	100.0
<i>Australia</i>	<i>1,018.3</i>	<i>57.8</i>	<i>654.4</i>	<i>37.1</i>	<i>55.3</i>	<i>3.1</i>	<i>1,762.2</i>	<i>100.0</i>
PERSONS								
New South Wales	1,041.0	59.6	565.4	32.4	110.5	6.3	1,746.3	100.0
Victoria	852.8	63.4	395.8	29.4	81.2	6.0	1,345.4	100.0
Queensland	374.5	56.8	234.9	35.7	40.8	6.2	658.9	100.0
South Australia	240.2	52.8	184.0	40.5	23.1	5.1	454.9	100.0
Western Australia	213.0	51.9	166.5	40.6	20.7	5.1	410.0	100.0
Tasmania	64.4	46.3	66.1	47.5	6.6	4.8	139.3	100.0
Northern Territory	10.4	32.2	18.0	55.5	2.1	6.4	32.4	100.0
Australian Capital Territory	22.8	29.2	49.4	63.3	3.7	4.7	78.0	100.0
<i>Australia</i>	<i>2,819.1</i>	<i>57.9</i>	<i>1,680.1</i>	<i>34.5</i>	<i>288.6</i>	<i>5.9</i>	<i>4,865.3</i>	<i>100.0</i>

For footnotes see Table 1. * See page 5, paragraph 5.

TECHNICAL NOTE

Estimation procedure

The estimates are derived from the quarterly population survey by use of a complex ratio estimation procedure, which ensures that the survey estimates conform to an independently estimated distribution of the population by age and sex, rather than to the age and sex distribution within the sample itself.

Reliability of the estimates

2. Since the estimates in this bulletin are based on a sample they may differ from the figures that would have been obtained from a complete census using the same questionnaires and procedures. One measure of the likely difference is given by the *standard error*, which indicates the extent to which an estimate might have varied by chance because only a sample, and not the whole population, was enumerated. There are about two chances in three that a sample estimate will differ by less than one standard error from the figure that would have been obtained from a comparable complete enumeration, and about nineteen chances in twenty that the difference will be less than two standard errors.

3. Space does not allow for the separate indication of the standard errors of all estimates in this bulletin. A table of *standard errors* for general application is given below. These figures will not give a precise measure of standard error of a particular estimate since they are averages based on calculations for a limited number of quarterly labour force surveys over a wide range of labour force characteristics. However, they will provide an indication of the magnitude of the standard error of any particular estimate. An example of the use of the table is as follows: if an estimate for Australia obtained from the sample is 100,000 and the standard error is 3 per cent of the estimate i.e. 3,000; there are then about

2 chances in three that the true figure is within the range 97,000 to 103,000 and about nineteen chances in twenty that this figure is between 94,000 and 106,000.

4. The reliability of an estimated percentage, computed by using sample data for both numerator and denominator, depends upon both the size of the numerator and the size of the denominator. However, the per cent standard error of the estimated percentage will generally be lower than the per cent standard error of the estimate of the numerator. The per cent standard errors of the numerator can be obtained from the table below.

5. As the standard errors in the table below show *the smaller the estimate the higher is the relative standard error*. Very small estimates are thus subject to such high standard errors (relative to the size of the estimate) as to detract seriously from their value for most reasonable uses. In the tables in this bulletin, estimates less than the lowest levels shown in the table below have not been included. Although figures for these small components can in some cases be derived by subtraction, they should not be regarded as reliable.

6. The imprecision due to sampling variability, which is measured by the standard error, should not be confused with inaccuracies that may occur because of imperfections in reporting by interviewers and respondents. Inaccuracies of this kind are referred to as the *non-sampling error*, and they may occur in any enumeration, whether it be a full count or only a sample. Every effort is made to reduce the non-sampling error to a minimum by careful design of questionnaires, intensive training and supervision of interviewers and efficient operating procedures.

STANDARD ERRORS OF ESTIMATES

Size of estimate (persons)	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	N.T.	A.C.T.	Australia	
									Number	Per cent of estimate
1,500						250	300	300		
2,000					400	250	350	350		
2,500				500	450	250	400	400		
3,000			600	500	450	300	400	450		
4,000	900	900	700	500	500	300	450	550	800	20.0
5,000	1,000	1,000	750	550	550	350	500	600	900	18.0
10,000	1,300	1,300	900	800	700	400	650	800	1,200	12.0
20,000	1,600	1,600	1,200	1,100	1,000	400	900	1,050	1,600	8.0
50,000	2,500	2,500	1,500	1,500	1,500	500	1,300	1,500	2,300	4.6
100,000	3,000	3,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	600		2,000	3,000	3.0
200,000	4,000	4,000	2,000	2,000	2,000				4,000	2.0
500,000	5,000	5,000	3,500	3,200	3,000				6,000	1.2
1,000,000	8,000	8,000							8,000	0.8
2,000,000									10,000	0.5

— Estimates below the levels indicated have not been published — see paragraph 5 above.

